Appl. No. 10/766,404
Reply to 7/13/2007 Office Action
Resp. dated November 12, 2007

US20010207

Sheet 3 of 12

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 - 11. (cancelled)

12. (currently amended)   A method of washing items during a wash cycle in an automatic washer having a wash chamber rotatable about a central axis, the method comprising the steps of:

loading items into the wash chamber;

supplying wash liquid into the wash chamber; and

oscillating the wash chamber about the central axis through a clockwise angle of rotation and a counter-clockwise angle of rotation with speed varying oscillations, the speed varying oscillations being maintained to effect less than a one gravity centrifugal force on the items such that the items will tumble in said wash chamber.

13. (withdrawn)   The method of claim 12, wherein the angle of rotation traversed by the wash chamber during each clockwise and counterclockwise rotation remains fixed throughout the wash cycle.

14. (original)   The method of claim 12, wherein the angle of rotation traversed by the wash chamber during each clockwise and counterclockwise rotation varies throughout the wash cycle.

15. (original) The method of claim 12, wherein the rotation of the wash chamber pauses for a length of time between each clockwise and counterclockwise rotation.

16. (withdrawn)   The method of claim 15, wherein the length of each pause is identical throughout the wash cycle.

Appl. No. 10/766,404
Reply to 7/13/2007 Office Action
Resp. dated November 12, 2007

US20010207

Sheet 4 of 12

17. (original)   The method of claim 15, wherein the length of each pause varies throughout the wash cycle.

18. (withdrawn)   The method of claim 12, wherein the speed of rotation of the wash chamber changes at specific fixed time intervals.

19. (withdrawn)   The method of claim 12, wherein the speed of rotation of the wash chamber changes at varying time intervals.

20. (original)   The method of claim 12, wherein the speed of rotation of the wash chamber varies randomly.

21. (original)   The method of claim 20, wherein the speed varies within a predetermined range of a base speed.

22. (withdrawn)   The method of claim 12, wherein the speed of rotation of the wash chamber varies according to a predetermined pattern.

23. (withdrawn)   The method of claim 12, wherein the speed of rotation of the wash chamber changes upon the occurrence of a specific event.

24. (withdrawn)   The method of claim 23, wherein the specific event comprises each wash chamber rotation reversal.

25 - 40. (cancelled)

41. (new) The method of claim 12, further comprising providing a speed varying oscillation signal from a controller to a motor to alternately rotate the wash chamber about the central axis through a clockwise angle of rotation and a counter-clockwise angle of rotation with speed varying oscillations.